

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12-20 were previously pending in the application. By the Amendment, Claims 3-6 and 12-17 are currently amended, Claims 1 and 2 are canceled without prejudice, and Claims 7-10 and 19-20 remain unchanged. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of Claims 19 and 20 and indication that Claims 5-10 and 14-17 include allowable subject matter.

Allowable original Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, newly-independent Claim 6 is allowable. Dependent Claims 3-5, 7-10, 12-13 and 15-16 depend from independent Claim 6 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

Allowable original Claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, newly-independent Claim 14 is allowable.

Allowable original Claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, newly-independent Claim 17 is allowable.

Without prejudice, Applicants have canceled Claims 1 and 2 and has amended Claims 3-5, 12-13 and 15-16 to depend from newly-independent Claim 6, thereby rendering the rejections moot. Applicants reserve the right to re-present the rejected claims in their original form and to address the Examiner's rejection in detail in a continuation application.

Applicants note that certified copies of the foreign priority documents are enclosed herewith.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of Claims 3-10 and 12-17, in addition to previously allowed Claims 19 and 20, are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please note that Applicants have changed representation and are now represented by new counsel. The formal Revocation of Power of Attorney / New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address documents will be forthcoming.

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Name of Attorney Signing under 37 CFR 1.34



Respectfully submitted,

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